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SOURCE Izvestiya Vsesoyuznogo Geograficheskogo Obshchestva, Vol LXXXI, No 6, 1949, p 589-591.BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF
NIKOLAY LEOPOL'DOVICH KORZHENEVSKIY

On 12 April 1949, the All-Union Geographic Society met to celebrate the 70th birthday and 45th year of scientific activity of Nikolay Leopoldovich Korzhenevskiy. Korzhenevskiy is well known to Soviet scientists as one of the foremost experts on geological-geographic problems of Central Asia.

The following biographical sketch lists the important events of his life:

1879 -- Born 6 February 1879, at Zaverzh'ye, Nevel'skiy district, Vitebsk Province. Studied at the Kostroma Vocational School and later at the Kiev Military School. Received his higher education at the Military Supply [Quartermaster] Academy in Petersburg.

1901 -- Arrived at the city of Osh, in accordance with his plans to study the nature and geography of Central Asia. This particular city is well termed the "city of expeditions," for many of the best-known expeditions in the USSR were organized here: the Pamir expeditions as well as expeditions to Kashgar, Tibet, and India.

1903 -- Took part in one of the original Pamir expeditions. In his autobiography, Korzhenevskiy states that this was his first expedition and the report of the expedition was his first scientific treatise in his chosen field.

1904 -- Conducted studies along the Muk-su River basin, a region which had never been explored previously. Found the glacial source of the river which he named Mushketova glacier. Also made studies in this region in 1910, 1914, and 1924 and eventually published the results of his research in the monograph entitled "The Muk-su and Its Glaciers."

1905 -- Conducted studies of the Alayskiy mountain range, his mode of operation being somewhat similar to his studies of the Muk-su. After several trips into the Alayskiy mountains, summed up his experiences in the monograph "The Alayskiy Valley."

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- 1906 -- Entered the Military Supply Academy at Petersburg.
- 1909 -- Completed the courses at the above-named academy and went on a short trip to study glacial phenomena in Switzerland.
- 1910 -- Returned to the USSR and started a trip to the Fedchenko glacier. On this trip, Korzhenevskiy almost lost his life while attempting to cross the Sel'dar'ya River.
- 1913 -- Started studies of the icing conditions on the Zeravshan River, but these studies were interrupted by World War I in 1914.
- 1914-18 -- Saw active service on the Russo-German front as a member of the 2d Turkestan Musketeers Division.
- 1918 -- While still in the service, attended the RKKA (Rabochekrest'yanskayg Krasnaya Armiya, Workers' and Peasants' Red Army) courses on "Eastern Studies" and expressed interest in military geography.
- 1920 -- Member of an Organization Committee assigned the task of forming a Military Faculty at the Turkmen State University. Upon its organization, Korzhenevskiy was made a professor of the faculty.
- 1921 -- Member of an expedition to study and predict earthquakes at Alma-Ata and at the same time conducted preliminary studies of the Kungey-Alatau mountain range.
- 1922 -- Placed in charge of an expedition to study the Muyun-kum deserts.
- 1923 -- Made chief of a comprehensive expedition sent into the Pamirs by the Council of People's Commissars, Turkmen Republic.
- 1925 -- Conducted studies of glaciers in the region of the headwaters of the Tanymas River.
- 1926 -- Took active part in the operations of the Central Asiatic Hydrometeorological Institute as its scientific secretary as well as consultant and chief of the Sector of Glaciology. Also organized several glacier expeditions.
- 1927 -- Headed an expedition sent by the Central Asiatic Hydrometeorological Institute into the Tien Shan region.
- 1929 -- Conducted studies on the Pskema, Chatkals, and Susamyrta glaciers.
- 1930 -- Published his work "Catalogue of Central Asiatic Glaciers." The various scientific societies of the USSR, represented by Academician Yu. M. Shokal'skiy, praised this work highly and considered it one of the most important contributions to a fuller understanding of glacial conditions in Central Asia.
- 1931 -- The above named work was awarded a special prize by the Hydrometeorological Committee USSR.
- 1936-37 -- Conducted studies of icing conditions and glacial conditions of the Isfayram-say and Sokh rivers.
- 1937 -- Received the scientific degree of Doctor of Geographical Sciences without having to submit a dissertation.

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1939 -- Awarded the title "Honored Worker of Science of the Uzbek SSR."

1944 -- Awarded a "Charter of Honor" by the Supreme Soviet Uzbek SSR and an Order of Labor Red Banner.

1946 -- Received a second Order of Labor Red Banner.

1947 -- Elected a Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences, Uzbek SSR.

Nikolay Leopol'dovich Korzhenevskiy's greatest contribution to Soviet science was his classification of glaciation in Central Asia. He is well known for his studies in this field which include "The Morphological Types of Glaciers in Central Asia and Their Possible Classification" published in 1924. This was the first attempt at a classification of glacier in Central Asia.

While with the Central Asiatic Hydrometeorological Institute, he published many hydrometeorological and limnological works, including: "Lake Kara-kul", and "Notes on Isfayram-say." This latter work was a comprehensive orohydrographic study of the Isfayram-say River basin.

Korzhenevskiy's scientific endeavors always had a practical purpose as their ultimate goal. He was given the task of editing several maps on Central Asia. In addition, the Main Administration of Geodesy and Cartography, Council of Ministers USSR, gave him a vote of gratitude for his services as a consultant during the compilation of a map of the USSR (RF 1:1,000,000). His scientific activities are closely allied to the development of the national economy in the republics of Central Asia. In the period immediately after the Great October Revolution, he was active in organizing a People's University and teaching courses in physics, geography, and astronomy. An able lecturer of the All-Union Society for the Propagation of Political and Scientific Knowledge, he did much to popularize the field of geography.

He is the senior professor at the Central Asiatic State University, and many young geographers received their start in his classes. In 1949, he was active at the University as head of the Chair of Physical Geography.

At this time, it is possible to dwell only on a few aspects of Korzhenevskiy's activities. If an attempt were made to show on a map all of his expeditions in Central Asia, the map would soon be covered by an intricate network of lines. His aim in life can be illustrated best by his own statement: "I always strove to penetrate those regions where the mountains were highest, which were the most impenetrable, and where no man had previously set foot." However, it was not until recently that Soviet cartographers have filled in some of the existing "white spots," thus presenting an everlasting memorial to 45 years of loyal service to the Soviet Union.

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